

Dear FCC:I have enjoyed the privilege of publishing and editing my own small-town daily and weekly newspapers for almost 15 years. To allow cross-ownership of broadcast stations and newspapers in the same market would be a terrible mistake. I encourage the FCC to never allow such a combined market presence by any one company. Maintain as many media outlets independently owned and operated as possible • only then can we assure a more open presentation of news.

Certainly there are numerous media outlets in most major markets • far more than were in existence when these rules were in place. And one could argue that we can today get our news from several sources so combining ownership wouldn't have the same affect as 50 years ago. However, most families still turn to a daily newspaper (sadly often just one in most major cities) or a local television station for their news. More numerous media outlets even now do not necessarily provide more strong news voices within the community that can control the news presentations as the large media companies do. To allow these markets to be dominated by a single voice, a singular news •slant•, a uniform bias would be dangerous to the very freedoms on which our nation was founded.

Thank you.